

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05887 201238Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 JUSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /040 W

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R 201054Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 154

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJ: NARCOTICS: ACQUISITION OF SEIZED OPIUM FOR

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

REF: A) STATE 091823 B) ISLAMABAD 5030 C) STATE 137642

1. EMBASSY CONVEYED CONTENTS PARA 2 REF A TO PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (PNCB) IN MAY, AT SAME TIME REQUESTING DATA ON AMOUNTS OF SEIZED OPIUM PRESENTLY AVAILABLE AND NAME OF PNCB OFFICIAL WITH WHICH US MANUFACTURERS COULD DEAL WITH. ALTHOUGH PNCB, WHICH IS STILL WOEFULLY UNDERSTAFFED, HAS NOT REPLIED DIRECTLY, WE ARE INFORMED BY CONSULATE GENERAL LAHORE THAT GOVERNMENT OPIUM WORKS NOW HAS APPROXIMATELY 750 KG. SEIZED OPIUM ON HAND. SUPPLIES AT OPIUM WORKS WERE VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED BY PURCHASES IN FALL OF 1972 BY MALLINKRODT COMPANY OF ST. LOUIS AND HAVE BEEN BUILDING UP SLOWLY SINCE.

IN ADDITION PNCB INFORMS US THAT THERE ARE SOME SUPPLIES OF SEIZED OPIUM STORED IN GOVERNMENT STORAGE DEPOTS AT DISTRICT LEVEL IN PROVINCES. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO LET DETAILS, HOWEVER. DISTRICTS ARE REQUIRED TO SEND WHATEVER SEIZED OPIUM THEY HAVE COLLECTED TO OPIUM WORKS

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 05887 201238Z

IN DECEMBER AND JUNE OF EACH YEAR, (WITH EXCEPTION OF

THAT NEEDED FOR EVIDENCE IN CURRENT COURT CASES), BUT JUNE SHIPMENTS HAVE REPORTEDLY NOT YET ARRIVED.

2. PNCB REPORTS THAT US MANUFACTURERS SHOULD DEAL WITH ASRAR HUSSAIN, SECRETARY, PNCB, NO. 149, F. 6/2 ISLAMABAD, TELEPHONE 21206, REGARDING PURCHASES OF SEIZED OPIUM.

3. EMBASSY HAS HAD NO APPROACHES FROM US MANUFACTURERS WITH EXCEPTION OF RAFHAN MAIZE LTD., ACTING ON BEHALF OF S.B. PENNICK CO.

AS REPORTED REF B. MCDONALD OF RAFHAN MAIZE RECENTLY TELEPHONED EMBASSY TO REPORT THAT HE HAD INFORMED HIS CONTACT WHO HAD REPORTEDLY OBTAINED 10 TONS OF AFGHAN OPIUM FOR SALE TO PENNICK THAT OPIUM IMPORTED INTO US FROM PAKISTAN COULD ONLY BE THAT SEIZED IN ILLICIT TRAFFIC. MCDONALD CONFIDED THAT HE INTENDED TO SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO GET THE 10 TONS SEIZED AND THEN NEGOTIATE ITS SALE TO S.B. PENNICK.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S GUIDANCE ON MCDONALD'S PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION. PARA 4 REF A INDICATES ONLY THAT OPIUM "SEIZED IN ILLICIT TRAFFIC" MUST BE DISTINGUISHED FROM THAT ACQUIRED BY "PREEMPTIVE PURCHASES" OR PRODUCED FOR GOVERNMENT'S INTERNAL USE. THESE TWO CATEGORIES WOULD NOT APPEAR TO PRECLUDE CASE OF SEIZURE CARRIED OUT WITH CONNIVANCE OF WOULD-BE PURCHASER. SANDERHOFF

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